

Categorical Exclusion Documentation
UNS Gas Renewal/Amendment/Temporary Use Permit
DOI-BLM-P010-2013-0015-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: *Hassayampa Field Office (HFO)*

Lease/Serial/Case File No.: AZA-17959

Proposed Action Title/Type: R/W renewal, amendment and TUP to UNS Gas Inc.

Location of Proposed Action (Amendment and Temporary Use Permit. Renewal is for entire original authorization):

T.11 N., R 2 E., G&SRM, Arizona
section 8, S½SE¼SW¼;
section 17, N½NE¼NW¼.

Description of Proposed Action: UNS Gas Inc. filed an application for the renewal and amendment of AZA-17959. The proposed amendment would involve the installation of a 14 gallon odorizing tank as well as an emergency shut off valve all enclosed by a 20' X 20' X 6' chain link fence (total of 0.94 acres). Included in the application was a request for a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) to be issued in association with the amendment for access and construction purposes (0.11 acres). The R/W would be renewed for a 30 year term.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan (LUP) Name: The Bradshaw-Harquahala Resource Management Plan (RMP). This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with these plans (43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM Manual 1601.04.C.2) Date Approved: April 2010

☐ The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

X The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision(s) (objectives, terms, and conditions): Specifically, in the Bradshaw-Harquahala Record of Decision and Approved RMP, page 33, under Land Use Authorizations, LR-25 states, "Continue to issue land use authorizations (rights-of-way, leases, permits, easements) on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with resource management prescriptions in this land use plan."

C: Compliance with NEPA:

The Proposed Actions are categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 2, Appendix 1, or 516 DM 11.5: E. (9) Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations; E. (19) Issuance of short-term (3 years or less) rights-of-way or land use authorizations for such uses as storage sites, apiary sites, and construction sites where the proposal includes rehabilitation to restore the land to its natural or original condition; J. (8) Installation of minor devices to protect human life (e.g., grates across mines).

These categorical exclusions are appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2 or 516 DM 11.5 apply.

D: Signature

Authorizing Official: _____/S/_____ Date: ____05/06/2013__

D. Remington Hawes
Field Manager, HFO

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:
Jim Andersen (623-580-5570) jvanders@blm.gov

BLM Categorical Exclusions: Extraordinary Circumstances¹
Attachment 1

The action has been reviewed to determine if any of the extraordinary circumstances (43 CFR 46.215) apply. The project would:		
1. Have significant impacts on public health or safety		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No X	Rationale:
2. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness or wilderness study areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (Executive Order 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No X	Rationale:
3. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No X	Rationale:
4. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No X	Rationale:
5. Establish a precedent for future action, or represent a decision in principle about future actions, with potentially significant environmental effects?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No X	Rationale:
6. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No X	Rationale:
7. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the Bureau or office?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No X	Rationale:

8. Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale:
9. Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale:
10. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale:
11. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners, or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale:
12. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area, or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		
Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rationale:

**Approval and Decision
Attachment 2**

Compliance and assignment of responsibility: Jim Andersen

Monitoring and assignment of responsibility: Jim Andersen

Review: *We have determined that the proposal is in accordance with the categorical exclusion criteria and that it would not involve any significant environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review.*

Prepared by: _____/S/_____ **Date::** ____04/30/13__

Jim Andersen

Project Lead

Reviewed by: _____/S/_____ **Date::** ____05/02/13__

Leah Baker

Planning & Environmental Coordinator

Reviewed by: _____/S/_____ **Date:** ____05/06/13__

D. Remington Hawes

Manager

Project Description:

The issuance of a right-of-way for the installation of a 14 gallon odorizing tank as well as an emergency shut off valve all enclosed by a 20' X 20' X 6' chain link fence. The R/W would be renewed for a 30 year term. Also issue a TUP (a one year term) for access and construction purposes.

Decision: Based on a review of the project described above and field office staff recommendations, I have determined that the project is in conformance with the land use plan and is categorically excluded from further environmental analysis. It is my decision to approve the action as proposed, with the attached mitigating measures:

Approved By: _____/S/_____ **Date:** _05/06/2013__

D. Remington Hawes, Field Manager, HFO

Mitigating Measures for the UNS Gas Renewal/Amendment/Temporary Use Permit -
AZA-17959/AZA1795901

1. All applicable regulations in accordance with 43 CFR 2880.
2. Any cultural and/or paleontological resources (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder or any person working on the holders behalf, on public or federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. The holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made the authorized officer to determine the appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of the evaluation and any decision as to the proper mitigation measures will be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder.
3. All stipulations attached to the original grant remain in effect.
4. UNS Gas, Inc. shall abide by the prescriptions outlined in the “Pipeline Plan of Development” submitted with the SF-299 that was dated October 7, 2010.
5. UNS Gas, Inc. will be responsible for controlling noxious and invasive weeds. Trimming native vegetation shall be minimized to the greatest extent possible.